## Trying to Fill Bart's Shoes

It would hardly come as a surprise if figures revealed that college coaches have an abnormally high incidence of ulcers.

It is in the very nature of college athletics that just when you are able to establish a player as a leader and star of a team, his college career has ended, and he is moving on the proverbial "greener pastures" of

professional sports.

So when Cal's All-American quarterback Steve Bartkowski's eligibility expired at the end of last season, you might have expected head coach Mike White to grab his playbook and whistle, and start looking for a more stable and comfortable profession.

Not so. White has been directing his club through Spring drills at Memorial Stadium each day, culminating in Saturday's Alumni Game at 1:30. He calls the drills the "most rewarding and enjoyable" since he came to Cal three years ago.

A surprising attitude, indeed, for a man who has the unenviable task of finding someone to replace Bartkowski, the departing leader of an offense that led the nation in passing last year.

If White does not seem overly apprehensive about the prospects of finding a suitable replacement for Bart, it is understandable. You see, White was the offensive coordinator at Stanford in 1972, when they responded to the loss of Heisman. Trophy quarterback Jim Plunkett by winning the Pac-8 championship with Don Bunce at the helm.

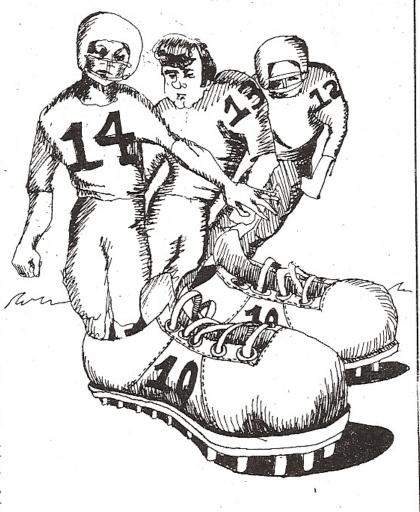
White realizes that if his team is going to make a serious challenge for the Rose Bowl next year, he must find a capable quarterback before the opener against Colorado in the second week of September.

spring sessions is to establish a definite "number one" at the

quarterback position.

"We want to avoid what Stanford went through last fall," White said, referring to the struggle among three Stanford quarterbacks for the starting position that extended well into the 1974 season, and caused divisive elements within the team.

Under consideration for the September 13 starting spot are Mark Cahill (6-0, 190) a returning letterman from last year's squad, Fred Besana (6-4, 190) who redshirted last year, and All-American



junior college transfer Joe Roth (6-4, performer from Grossmont JC, has

demonstrated "excellent leadership talent." qualities" according to White. year, feels he has had a good spring tions to the media about the status of began that the top priority of the and believes he has "come out ahead the battle for the starting job. But of the others."

> other two," he said. "But there's no that "Besana is the guy right now, heat between us. We've been and he will start the alumni game." working together."

characterized the quarterback race "but we're still evaluating." as "a highly competitive situation," what its all about."

Roth, the heavily-recruited everyone a fair shot.'

205). Freshman Mike Williams (6-1, the strongest arm and the quickest 185) is also bidding for top billing. release among the candidates, and Cahill is judged to be the best has been described by White as runner of the bunch and has having the "most overall physical

White and his staff have been care-Cahill, backup to Bartkowski last ful not to make any public evaluayesterday, three days before the "I think I've done better than the alumni contest, White confirmed

White said that because Besana Besana doesn't have an especially knows the system, he had a headstrong arm, but has impressed the start on Roth at the beginning of the coaching staff with his game-sense practices. "Besana is definitely and command of the offense. He number one right now," White said,

With the NCAA probation now but said "it's not a blood and guts history, White knows the importthing between us. The main thing is ance of the quarterback choice in to get to the Rose Bowl - that's Cal's first legitimate shot at the Rose Bowl in four years: "We're giving